

## PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT : RISTIĆ, ZORAN et al.  
 SERIAL NO : 09/810,764  
 FILED : MARCH 16, 2001  
 TITLE : MAINE CHLOROPLAST PROTEIN SYNTHESIS ELONGATION  
 FACTORS AND METHODS OF USE FOR SAME

Grp./A.U. : 1638  
 Examiner : MEHTA, ASHWIN D.  
 Conf. No. : 7108  
 Docket No. : P03965US1

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APR 22 2003

GROUP 1600

## RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
 Washington, D.C. 20231

OFFICIAL

Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated March 25, 2003, Applicants hereby elect, with traverse, to proceed with Group I, claims 1-8, 14-18 and 20-31, drawn to a purified and isolated nucleotide sequence encoding a regulatory protein that is approximately 45 kD, expressed primarily under heat shock conditions, is localized in chloroplasts, has high homology to chloroplast elongation factor EF-Tu from *E. coli* or tobacco, said nucleotide sequence being capable of hybridizing under conditions of high stringency to SEQ ID NO: 6; or wherein said

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Date: 4/21/03

## FACSIMILE

transmitted by facsimile to the Patent and Trademark Office (703) 872-9306.

HEIDI S. NEBEL

nucleotide sequence is SEQ ID NO: 5; or an expression cassette comprising said nucleotide sequence; a vector comprising said expression cassette, a prokaryotic or eukaryotic host cell comprising said vector; a method for increasing plant tolerance to heat and drought; a transformed plant which is substantially tolerant or resistant to one or more environmental conditions, cells of said plant comprising a recombinant DNA segment encoding EF-Tu. Claims 9-13 and claim 19 will be cancelled once notice of allowance is received for Group I.